

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A chirped pulse ~~amplifier~~amplification system for a fiber optic system, the ~~amplifier~~chirped pulse amplification system comprising:
a mode-locked laser; and
a pulse selector coupled to an output of the mode-locked laser, wherein the pulse selector modulates an output stream of pulses based upon an applied modulation voltage.
2. (currently amended): The chirped pulse ~~amplifier~~amplification system according to claim 1, wherein the pulse selector comprises an electro-optic modulator.
3. (currently amended): The chirped pulse ~~amplifier~~amplification system according to claim 2, wherein the electro-optic modulator is a LiNbO₃ modulator.
4. (withdrawn).
5. (currently amended): A chirped pulse ~~amplifier~~amplification system for a fiber optic system, the ~~amplifier~~chirped pulse amplification system comprising:
a mode-locked laser;

a polarization-maintaining device coupled to an output of the mode-locked laser;
a pulse stretcher coupled to a first output of the polarization-maintaining device;
an amplifier coupled to the pulse stretcher; and
a first pulse selector coupled to a second output of the polarization-maintaining device.

6. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the pulse stretcher comprises:

a non-polarization-maintaining dispersion compensating fiber; and
a Faraday rotator mirror.

7. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the pulse stretcher comprises:

a non-polarization-maintaining dispersion shifted fiber; and
a Faraday rotator mirror.

8. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the pulse stretcher comprises:

a linearly chirped fiber grating; and
a Faraday rotator.

9. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the pulse stretcher comprises:

a non-linearly chirped fiber grating; and

a Faraday rotator.

10. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the amplifier-chirped pulse amplification system comprises:

an erbium doped fiber amplifier, ~~or a erbium/ytterbium~~ an erbium and ytterbium doped fiber amplifier, or a ytterbium doped fiber amplifier;

a wavelength division multiplexer; and

a diode pump.

11. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the first pulse selector comprises an electro-optic modulator or an electro-absorption modulator.

12. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier-amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the polarization-maintaining device comprises a polarization-maintaining beam router, wherein a fiber polarization axis orientation of the input and output fibers matches the orientation of ~~the~~a polarization beam splitter within the polarization-maintaining device.

13. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the polarization-maintaining device comprises:

a polarization-maintaining beam router, wherein a fiber-polarization axis orientation of the input and output fibers matches the orientation of the-a polarization beam splitter within the polarization-maintaining device; and.

a Faraday rotator, a transmissive optical device, and a mirror disposed at a first port of the polarization-maintaining beam router; and

~~a Faraday rotator mirror at that port of the polarization-maintaining beam router in case the optical device is transmissive.~~

14. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier amplification system according to claim 5, further comprising:

a second pulse selector coupled to an output of the first pulse selector; and

a synchronization controller that synchronizes the first pulse selector with the second pulse selector.

15. (currently amended): The chirped pulse amplifier amplification system according to claim 14, wherein the second pulse selector comprises an electro-optic modulator or an electro-absorption modulator.

16. (currently amended): A chirped pulse ~~amplifier-amplification system~~ for a fiber optic system operating at approximately 1550 nanometers ~~or other wavelength~~, the amplifier comprising:

 a mode-locked laser;
 a polarization-maintaining device coupled to an output of the mode-locked laser;
 a pulse stretcher coupled to a first output of the polarization-maintaining device;
 a first amplifier coupled to the pulse stretcher;
 a pulse selector coupled to the first amplifier; and
 a second amplifier coupled through a beam splitter to a second output of the polarization-maintaining device.

17-34. (withdrawn).

35. (new): The chirped pulse amplification system according to claim 5, wherein the polarization-maintaining device comprises:

 a polarization-maintaining beam router, wherein a polarization axis orientation of the input and output fibers matches the orientation of a polarization beam splitter within the polarization-maintaining device; and
 a Faraday rotator mirror disposed at a first port of the polarization-maintaining beam router.